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E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/15/2034
TAGS: [PINR](#) [EFIN](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [NP](#)
SUBJECT: (U) NEPAL: LEADERSHIP, PARTY COHESION AND
FOREIGN POLICY (C-NE9-00623)

Classified By: SUZANNE MCCORMICK, DIR., INR/OPS. REASON: 1.4(C).

11. (S/NF) WASHINGTON ANALYSTS ARE INTERESTED IN SEVERAL DEVELOPMENTS IN NEPAL. IN THE PAST, ANALYSTS ASSESSED THAT PRACHANDA SERVED AS THE GUIDING FORCE AND POWER BROKER OF THE MAOISTS AND WAS UNLIKELY TO FACE SERIOUS CHALLENGES TO HIS AUTHORITY, AND THAT MAOIST INVOLVEMENT IN THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALLOW THEM TO PURSUE MAOIST GOALS AND POLICIES. HOWEVER, THE LACK OF PROGRESS ON THESE GOALS APPEARS TO HAVE FUELED TENSIONS BETWEEN MAOIST MODERATES AND HARDLINERS AND BETWEEN THOSE IN GOVERNMENT POSITIONS VERSUS PARTY POSITIONS. INFORMATION RECEIVED WILL BE USEFUL FOR ONGOING ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION IN NEPAL. AS TIME AND RESOURCES PERMIT, ANALYSTS WOULD WELCOME ADDITIONAL INSIGHTS FROM POST ON THE BELOW TOPICS AND QUESTIONS. MANY THANKS, AND REGARDS FROM WASHINGTON.

1A. (U) POLITICAL STABILITY AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

1) (S/NF) DESCRIBE INCIDENTS OR CONVERSATIONS THAT INDICATE THE MAOISTS ARE CONTEMPLATING PULLING OUT OF THE GOVERNMENT/PEACE PROCESS. INDICATE WHO THE KEY PLAYERS ARE IN MAKING SUCH A DECISION. WHAT DEMANDS HAVE THE MAOIST LEADERS EXPRESSED FOR THE NEW CONSTITUTION? WHICH DEMANDS DO THE MAOIST LEADERS CONSIDER NON-NEGOTIABLE?

2) (S/NF) HOW HAS MATRIKA YADAV'S DEFECTION AFFECTED THE UNIFIED COMMUNIST PARTY OF NEPAL MAOISTS (UCPN-M)? WHAT CONCERNS HAVE HIGH-LEVEL MAOISTS EXPRESSED ABOUT HIS DEFECTION? ARE THERE ANY INDICATIONS THAT YADAV HAS DEVELOPED A STRONG FOLLOWING?

3) (S/NF) DESCRIBE THE ROLE THAT PRIME MINISTER PUSHPA DAHAL'S (PRACHANDA) CLOSEST ADVISORS HAVE IN GOVERNANCE AND PARTY MANAGEMENT ISSUES. WHAT IMPORTANT TASKS IS PRACHANDA DELEGATING TO OTHERS?

4) (S/NF) DESCRIBE ANY TENSIONS BETWEEN THE MAOIST PARTY LEADERSHIP AND THOSE IN GOVERNMENT POSITIONS. WHAT ARE THE MAJOR ISSUES AND WHO ARE THE KEY PLAYERS? IS PRACHANDA MORE RESPONSIVE TO THOSE IN THE UCPN-M OR GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIALS WHEN DEVISING POLICIES?

1B. (U) INTERNAL PARTY POLITICS

1) (S/NF) DESCRIBE ANY TENSIONS BETWEEN MODERATES AND HARDLINERS WITHIN THE UCPN-M. DESCRIBE HOW THESE TENSIONS HAVE IMPACTED PRACHANDA'S CONTROL OVER THE UCPN-M AND POSE A CHALLENGE TO HIS AUTHORITY.

2) (S/NF) DESCRIBE THE EMERGENCE OF ANY RISING STARS IN THE UCPN-M. HAVE THE RISING STARS BECOME KEY PLAYERS WITHIN THE PARTY? IN WHAT WAYS DO THE VIEWS OF RISING PARTY MEMBERS DIFFER FROM THE MEMBERS BEING REPLACED?

3) (S/NF) DESCRIBE PARTY HARDLINERS' COMPLAINTS AGAINST PRACHANDA'S CURRENT POLICIES. DESCRIBE ANY DISCUSSIONS THAT MIGHT INDICATE HARDLINERS ARE CONSIDERING A SPLIT OR TAKEOVER OF THE PARTY. WHAT HAVE THEY IDENTIFIED AS POTENTIAL

REDLINES FOR SUCH ACTIONS?

4) (S/NF) DESCRIBE PRACHANDA'S CONTROL OVER THE YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE (YCL) AND THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY (PLA). IF HIS CONTROL IS WANING, WHO, IF ANYONE, HAS TAKEN OVER THESE RESPONSIBILITIES?

1C. (U) DOMESTIC POLICY

1) (S/NF) DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES TO PRACHANDA'S GOALS FOR GOVERNANCE. IN WHAT WAYS DO THESE NEW GOALS INDICATE A MOVE AWAY FROM THE PARTY'S STATED GOAL OF A ONE-PARTY COMMUNIST STATE?

2) (S/NF) DESCRIBE THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS TO PURSUE SOCIAL POLICIES THAT REFLECT MAOIST PRINCIPLES. DESCRIBE ANY PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE PLANS AND WHAT POLITICAL LEADERS SEE AS MAJOR IMPEDIMENTS TO ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

3) (S/NF) DESCRIBE FINANCE MINISTER BHATTARAI'S PLANS FOR COMMUNIST REFORM AND WHAT HE AND/OR OTHER POLITICAL LEADERS IDENTIFY AS MAJOR OBSTACLES. WHO ARE THE OTHER MAJOR PLAYERS IN THE FORMULATION OF ECONOMIC POLICY AND HOW DO BHATTARAI'S PLANS DIFFER FROM THEIRS?

4) (S/NF) DESCRIBE THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS FOR ADDRESSING THE VARIOUS GROUPS IN THE TERAJ SEEKING AUTONOMY.

1D. (U) FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES

1) (S/NF) DESCRIBE SENIOR MAOIST POLITICAL LEADERS' VIEWS OF THE UNITED STATES. WHICH LEADERS HAVE MORE FAVORABLE VIEWS OF THE US? WHAT ISSUES HAVE THESE LEADERS IDENTIFIED AS POTENTIAL AREAS OF COOPERATION? WHICH LEADERS HAVE UNFAVORABLE VIEWS OF THE US? WHAT ISSUES LED THEM TO THESE VIEWS? WHAT INFLUENCE DO SENIOR MAOIST POLITICAL LEADERS HAVE OVER GENERAL MAOIST THINKING TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES?

2) (S/NF) DESCRIBE SENIOR MAOIST POLITICAL LEADERS VIEWS OF INDIA. WHICH LEADERS HAVE MORE FAVORABLE VIEWS OF INDIA? WHAT ISSUES HAVE THESE LEADERS IDENTIFIED AS POTENTIAL AREAS OF COOPERATION? WHICH LEADERS HAVE UNFAVORABLE VIEWS OF INDIA? WHAT ISSUES LED THEM TO THESE VIEWS? DO ANY MAOIST LEADERS PERCEIVE INDIA AS TOO INVOLVED IN THE AFFAIRS OF NEPAL? IF SO, WHAT ACTIONS DO THEY PLAN TO TAKE TO DECREASE INDIAN INFLUENCE?

3) (S/NF) DESCRIBE SENIOR MAOIST POLITICAL LEADERS VIEWS OF CHINA. WHICH LEADERS HAVE MORE FAVORABLE VIEWS OF CHINA? WHAT ISSUES HAVE THESE LEADERS IDENTIFIED AS POTENTIAL AREAS OF COOPERATION? WHICH LEADERS HAVE UNFAVORABLE VIEWS OF CHINA? WHAT ISSUES LED THEM TO THESE VIEWS? IN WHAT WAYS HAS NEPAL'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA CHANGED SINCE THE MAOISTS TOOK OFFICE?

12. (U) PLEASE CITE C-NE9-00623 IN THE SUBJECT LINE OF REPORTING IN RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS.
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